Hence the following motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon:—*To omit the whole allotment of Rs. 1,072 under 7—Excise—refunds.*

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Sir, I want to know what action has been taken with regard to this matter, whether the contractors' losses have been fully compensated by the Insurance Company.

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—The shipments were insured. It is not a question of loss to the contractor. That does not concern us. We are realising duty on the assumption that the contractor sold or otherwise disposed of the quantity of salt that was missing. It is only to prevent that that we realise the duty. Now that the Port Officer and the Government surveyor testified to its being actually lost we propose to refund the duty we have collected.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—Did the contractor get any compensation from the Insurance Company for the loss?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—Government need not enquire into the private contract between the contractor and the company.

Demand put and carried.

1 A—7—Excise—Local Allowance—Rs. 156.

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional grant of Rs. 156 under 7—Excise—Local allowance. Two preventive outposts were opened—one at Vaniampara in Edavam 1108 and the other at Velanthavalam from 1st Chingam 1109 to check and prevent illicit traffic in tobacco, salt and other excisable articles. Vaniampara and Velanthavalam being special tracts, the orderlies stationed there are entitled to get local allowance under the C. S. R. for which an amount of Rs. 156 is necessary in the current year. Specific provision for this expenditure has not been made in the current year's budget. Hence the additional expenditure has become necessary. I request the House to sanction the allotment.

Demand put and carried.

2. 11—Tramway—E—VII—Rs. 345—2—10.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 345—2—10 under 11—Tramway E-VII. The necessity for this demand has been explained in the note on the subject that has been circulated among the Hon'ble Members. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction the allotment.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Sir, I find from the minutes of the Standing Finance Committee that the item was explained by the Tramway Engineer who was present. May I know what the explanation was?

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